

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 157061

NODIS

CHEROKEE

FOLLOWING REPEAT THE HAGUE 3440 ACTION SECSTATE DTD 06 JUL

QTE

S E C R E T THE HAGUE 3440

NODIS/CHEROKEE

PERSONAL FOR THE SECRETARY

E9O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC TECH PARM BR GW NL

SUBJECT: DUTCH FOREIGN MINISTER COMMENTS ON FRG CHANCELLOR,
MIDDLE EAST.

1. WHILE EXPRESSING GREAT SATISFACTION WITH HIS MEETING
WITH YOU IN PARIS RECENTLY PARTICULARLY ON THE URENCO
QUESTION, FONMIN VAN DER STOEL DREW ME ASIDE AT A WEEKEND
RECEPTION TO NOTE THAT CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT WOULD BE
VISITING WASHINGTON LATER THIS MONTH.

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2. VAN DER STOEL WENT ON TO REMARK THAT SCHMIDT IS A MAN
OF CONSIDERABLE PRIDE WHO SUFFERS MANY FRUSTRATIONS
GOVERNING A RAMBUNCTIOUS GERMANY. ACKNOWLEDGING
DISAPPOINTMENTS IN CERTAIN OF THEIR DEALINGS WITH SCHMIDT,
VAN DER STOEL MUSED THAT ONE SHOULD NOT NEGLECT PLAYING
UPON THE CHANCELLOR'S VANITY IF ONE IS SEEKING A CONCES-

SION ON AN IMPORTANT ISSUE, FOR EXAMPLE, NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION POLICY. LIKE ALL PROUD MEN, VAN DER STOEL ADDED, SCHMIDT WILL RETREAT INTO OBSTINACY IF HE DRAWS THE IMPRESSION THAT HE IS BEING TOLD WHAT HE MUST DO IRRESPECTIVE OF GERMAN SELF-INTEREST. IMPLIED WITH THIS REMARK WAS A CRITICISM THAT THE UNITED STATES MAY NOT HAVE ALWAYS WON FROM SCHMIDT DECISIONS WE HAD HOPED TO GAIN IN SUPPORTING BROAD INTERNATIONAL OBJECTIVES. HERE VAN DER STOEL HAD IN MIND VICE PRESIDENT MONDALE'S APPEAL TO THE CHANCELLOR EARLIER THIS YEAR FOR STIMULATING THE GERMAN ECONOMY AND SCHMIDT'S ARMS-LENGTH RESPONSE.

3. BECAUSE HE WAS GREATLY IMPRESSED WITH YOUR TELLING HIM THAT WE HAVE NOT GIVEN UP WITH EITHER THE GERMANS OR THE BRAZILIANS ON THEIR NUCLEAR FUEL CYCLE CONTRACT, VAN DER STOEL VIEWS SCHMIDT'S VISIT TO WASHINGTON AS MOST IMPORTANT. OF COURSE, HE DISCLAIMED ANY INTENTION OF PRESUMING TO TELL US HOW TO DEAL WITH THE CHANCELLOR. INDEED, IT IS RATHER UNLIKE VAN DER STOEL TO INITIATE SUCH A LINE OF DISCUSSION. ON THE OTHER HAND, IT IS A MEASURE OF THE ANGUISH HE IS EXPERIENCING WITH THE URENCO PROBLEM INASMUCH AS THE MONKEY WILL BE LARGELY ON HIS BACK WHEN THE GON DISCLOSES ITS DECISION. BEYOND THIS IS THE CONCERN THAT HE AND PRIMIN DEN UYL HOLD THAT PRESIDENT CARTER AND SCHMIDT MAY HAVE TALKED PAST ONE
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ANOTHER ON THIS SUBJECT WHEN THEY MET AT THE DOWNING STREET SUMMIT. EVEN THOUGH HE RECOGNIZES THE IMPORT OF THE FRG'S NUCLEAR ENERGY POLICY STATEMENT WHICH YOU AND HE DISCUSSED, VAN DER STOEL PLAINLY SEES THE UNITED STATES AS THE ONLY HOPE FOR TURNING ASIDE THE MOMENTUM OF A PLUTONIUM ECONOMY AND REGARDS THE GERMAN CHANCELLOR AS CRITICAL TO THIS HOPE.

4. SEPARATELY, VAN DER STOEL DISPLAYED A SENSE OF ACHIEVEMENT IN COMMENTING ON THE EC STATEMENT FROM LONDON ON THE MIDDLE EAST, THAT IT ENJOYED WASHINGTON'S CONCURRENCE AND FOLLOWED SO CLOSELY ON THE DEPARTMENT'S A FEW DAYS EARLIER. GENERALLY, THE DUTCH ARE BEARISH ABOUT CRITICIZING ISRAEL SO THAT HIS ATTITUDE IN THIS INSTANCE IS NOTEWORTHY. AT ONE POINT HE REFERRED TO HIS EXCHANGE WITH YOU ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND YOUR CANDOR IN DISCUSSING WITH HIM THE FORTHCOMING VISIT OF THE ISRAELI PRIME MINISTER TO WASHINGTON. HE WISHED YOU WELL IN THOSE MEETINGS AND IN YOUR ONWARD EFFORTS. VAN DER STOEL SHOWED EVIDENT PLEASURE THAT THE GON AND THE EC AS A WHOLE ARE IN STEP WITH US ON THIS ONE.

5. WARM REGARDS.

MCCLOSKEY UNQTE VANCE

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